PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the rights and responsibilities of trainees who have been granted training for one year in an accredited overseas training position, and who wish to apply for an additional twelve months in an accredited training position.

SCOPE

This policy applies to trainees who are completing or who have already completed twelve months in an accredited overseas position and wish to apply for an additional twelve months. It outlines the application process for the request, the supporting documentation requirements and the academic requirements.

DEFINITIONS/KEY WORDS/ABBREVIATIONS

One year refers to the length of time a candidate may occupy an accredited training position in an overseas hospital. The time period coincides with the training period in Australia ie. one calendar year.

Accredited training position is a position that has been accredited by the ACD National Accreditation Committee, and for which the accreditation is current.

Exceptional circumstances will be assessed in each individual case by the National Training Committee. They make seek additional advice from the Dean of Education, the Chief Examiner, and the relevant State Faculty executive.
NTC is the National Training Committee

THE POLICY

A Trainee who has completed the appropriate application process for an overseas position, and been granted that position, may complete a maximum of twelve months in one continuous period of training in an accredited overseas training post. In exceptional circumstances a Trainee may have an additional 12 months allowed overseas.

Additional twelve months

Trainees who wish to remain for an additional twelve months must complete the following:

- Letter addressed to the Honorary Secretary by 1 June of the year prior to the year to which the application refers, outlining the reasons for applying for the additional twelve months. Where appropriate, supporting documentation should be attached. Additional documentation may be requested by the NTC.
- Documentation from the hospital verifying that the position is available to the trainee, that they support the trainee’s application for extension, and that they are in a position to pay the trainee. A timetable of the position must be submitted for approval by the Accreditation committee.
- Should an additional twelve months be granted, it will be unaccredited and will not count towards a year in the training program.

Trainee Progress

- The trainee’s Trainee Portfolio, SITAs and any other relevant documentation will be examined by the NTC to ensure that the trainee has met sufficiently high enough standards in their assessments that suggest they will not be disadvantaged by remaining in the overseas position.
- The overseas hospital will be assessed to ensure that they are able to provide all the necessary experiences for the trainee at their next stage of learning.

Considerations

Trainees should consider the following when applying for a second twelve months:

- Time away from Australia and the contact with supervisors and their cohort is further limited
- Preparation for the Fellowship examinations and lack of overseas supervisor knowledge of the examination system
- College will not make any special consideration allowances for perceived or real shortcomings of the overseas training program in relation to examinations
- Different casemix of UK as opposed to Australian dermatological practice
- Limited time to settle back into Australia prior to sitting the Fellowship Examination.